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Annual Report

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Annual report of the Trustees and Superintendent of the Alabama Insane Hospital <1878>

LLMC #: 00242t

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

ALABAMA INSANE HOSPITAL

OCTOBER 1873.

MONTGOMERY, ALA.:
ARTHUR BINGHAM, STATE PRINTER.
1873.

TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS OF THE HOSPITAL.

TRUSTEES:

REUBEN SEARCY, M. D., *President;*
HON. WM. MILLER,
COL. E. F. JENNINGS,
A. G. MABRY, M. D.,
O. BERRY, ESQ.,
HON. PORTER KING,
HON. E. H. MOREN,
A. F. GIVEN, ESQ.

RESIDENT OFFICERS:

P. BRYCE, M. D., *Superintendent and Physician.*

JOHN LITTLE, M. D., } *Assistant Physicians.*
R. P. HUGER, M. D., }

J. B. BASKIN, *Steward.*
MRS. H. WOODALL, *Matron.*

HON. WASHINGTON MOODY, *Treasurer.*

REPORT.

TUSKALOOSA, ALABAMA,
October 30th, 1873.

To His Excellency,
D. P. LEWIS,
Governor of Alabama:

SIR:—The Trustees of the Alabama Insane Hospital respectfully submit to your Excellency, and through you to the General Assembly, their Thirteenth Annual Report, accompanied by the Report of the Superintendent of the Hospital, with statistical and other exhibits, showing the operations and results of the year, the present condition of the Institution and its prospects and needs in the future.

The regular annual meeting of the Board was held this day in the Hospital, and, as usual on these occasions, a very thorough examination was made of its management and condition, both of which were entirely satisfactory. The books and accounts of the Treasurer and Steward were carefully examined by a select committee of the Board on the day preceding the regular meeting, and were found to be in every respect correct. A condensed statement of the actual receipts and payments for the year, hereto appended, shows that the expenditure has been judiciously and economically made, and is proportionately less than that of any other Southern hospital for the insane. Your attention is specially directed to the statistics bearing on this point in the Report of the Superintendent herewith submitted.

The statement of the Treasurer of the Hospital shows that the warrants drawn by the Auditor on the State Treasurer for the support of the indigent and criminal insane, for the second, third and fourth quarters of 1872,

and for the first and second quarters of 1873, were not paid until August and September last, and then in State certificates, upon which the Hospital sustained a large and almost ruinous discount. The warrant for the third quarter of 1873 has not yet been paid. This inability on the part of the State Treasurer, extending over a period of nearly eighteen months, to pay any of these warrants and their final redemption in a depreciated currency, has not only subjected the inmates of the Hospital to many hardships and privations, but has entailed a debt of $10,000 upon the Institution, which it will be incumbent upon the Legislature to provide the means to liquidate at the earliest possible moment. For a further explanation of this indebtedness, and a description of the trying ordeal through which the Hospital is passing, we refer you to the Report of the Superintendent. It is but just to state, in this connection, that without the seasonable assistance furnished, from time to time, by the First National Bank of Tuskaloosa, the dissolution of the Hospital and discharge of its inmates would have been inevitable.

To avoid a recurrence of these disasters, and to save the Institution from closure and perhaps destruction, it will be necessary to provide by legislative enactment for the certain payment, promptly and in current funds, of the regular quarterly allowance already made by law for the support of the indigent and criminal insane sent to the Hospital from the different counties of the State. The timely presence of your Excellency at the regular annual meeting of the Board, and your participation in their deliberations, will enable you, it is believed, to recommend to the Legislature such remedy as will doubtless meet the exigencies of the case.

We have the honor to be, Governor,

Your obedient servants,

REUBEN SEARCY, *Pres't*,
WM. MILLER,
A. G. MABRY,
E. F. JENNINGS,
PORTER KING,
O. BERRY,
} Trustees.

EXPENDITURES AND RECEIPTS.

The following is an abstract of the Steward's statement of receipts and expenditures for the fiscal year ending September 30th, 1873:

RECEIPTS.

Proceeds from sale of State Warrants and Certificates	$41,130 57
Loan from the Improvement Fund	1,067 30
For board and clothing of paying patients	13,027 32
Supplies and articles sold	320 71
Work done by the Machinist	40 35
Rent of Cottage	18 00
Rebate of Interest by the National Bank	29 33
Unpaid Check drawn on Treasurer	10 00
	$55,643 58

EXPENDITURES.

Salaries of Superintendent, Physicians. Matron, Steward, and Treasurer.	$ 4,146 62
Wages of Supervisors	420 00
Wages of Nurses, male and female	7,688 43
Labor—Carpenters, Masons, and Mechanics	2,326 63
Machinist, Engineer, and Fireman	1,300 00
Farmer and Assistants	720 00
Teamsters and Dairyman	624 00
Laundress and Assistants	288 00
Housekeeper, Cooks, and Scullions	920 00
Baker	300 00
Watchman	240 00
Stationery, Stamps, &c	140 10
Printing and Advertising	12 70
Books and Periodicals	75 95
Commissions, Insurance, &c	12 05
Freight, Drayage, &c	607 84
Blacksmithing	79 12
Tinware	76 54
Hardware, Tools, Implements, Machinery, &c	1,343 50
Stone, Glass, and China Ware	244 40
Furniture	159 75
Brooms, Brushes, Wooden Ware, &c	96 25

EXPENDITURES—Continued.

Dry Goods and Clothing	$ 3,543 79
Hosiery	83 60
Mattresses and Filling	292 82
Carpets, Matting, &c	247 30
Shoes and Leather	807 84
Drugs and Medicines	531 43
Forty-three gallons Whisky	47 34
Lamps, Oils, &c	279 86
Beef, Mutton, and Fish	6,343 07
Bacon, Pork, and Ham	1,558 66
Poultry	130 18
Groceries and Provisions	458 18
Butter and Eggs	417 60
Molasses and Sugar	2,438 36
Tea and Coffee	1,279 88
Salt	87 65
Rice	159 35
Corn, Meal, and Hominy	1,600 70
Flour	3,475 79
Lard	142 92
Fruits and Confections	260 28
Coal	3,030 17
Trees and Shrubbery	206 70
Manures and Fertilizers	783 98
Tobacco for Working Patients	59 77
Telegraphing	28 19
Stereoscopticon, Slides and Instruments	781 87
Lye, Soap, and Starch	92 30
Live Stock—Horse and Cow	210 00
Harness	25 70
Forage—Hay, Fodder, Oats, &c	884 99
Expended on Paying Patients	873 52
Refunded " "	291 02
Bricks, Lime, and Cement	88 50
Extra Mechanical Day Labor	202 46
Lumber and Building Materials	458 89
Paints, Oils, Glass, &c	333 04
Exchange	20 38
Hamper Baskets	13 75
Magistrate's Fees	50
Farm and Garden Seed, and Implements	432 04
Discount on Patron's Drafts	2 85
Set of Fairbank's Scales and Letter Balance	98 11
Empty Barrels for Pickles	20 00
Miscellaneous Articles	11 50
An Apiary and Stock	40 00
Traveling Expenses of Trustees	185 55
" " Treasurer	121 35

EXPENDITURES—Continued.

Traveling Expenses of Superintendent	40 25
Interest on Store Accounts	113 93
Interest on Borrowed Money	183 79
Unpaid Accounts for Supplies, &c.	10,003 08
Total Expenditure	$65,646 66

N. B.—It will be seen from the above, that the Expenditure is in excess of Receipt, by the sum of $10,003.08. This last amount is still due the merchants and others for supplies of food, clothing, &c.—is drawing interest, and its payment urgently demanded.

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SUPERINTENDENT

OF THE

ALABAMA INSANE HOSPITAL.

Tuskaloosa, Ala., 1st October, 1873.

To the Trustees of the Hospital:

GENTLEMEN:—On the 1st of October, 1872, the date of my last annual report, there were three hundred and thirty-eight (338) patients under treatment in the Alabama Insane Hospital. Since then seventy-nine (79) have been admitted, making a total of four hundred and seventeen (417) under treatment during the twelve months ending October 1st, 1873. Of this number forty five (45) have been restored and returned to their respective homes; thirteen (13) have been removed by friends—eight (8) of whom were decidedly improved, and five (5) unchanged in their mental condition; and twenty-nine (29) have died. These results are more fully exhibited in the following tables:

Numerical Results of the Year.

	MEN.	WOMEN.	TOTAL
Remaining in Hospital Oct. 1st, 1872	180	158	338
Received during the present year	46	33	79
Under treatment during the present year	226	191	417
Daily average	.....	.....	332
Discharged recovered	29	16	45
Discharged improved	5	3	8
Discharged unchanged	3	2	5
Died	21	8	29
Remaining in Hospital Oct. 1st, 1873	168	162	330
Per centage of cures on admissions	.....	.....	56.76
Per centage of deaths on number under treatment	.....	.....	6.9

Causes of Death during the Year.

	MEN.	WOMEN.	TOTAL
Marasmus	5	1	6
Heart Disease	0	2	2
Epilepsy	7	2	9
Dysentery	1	0	1
Phthisis	1	3	4
Paralysis	1	0	1
Old Age	1	0	1
Exhaustion	2	0	2
Cerebral Hemorrhage	1	0	1
Chronic Cystitis	1	0	1
Cancer of Liver	1	0	1
Total	21	8	29

Class, Color and Sex of Patients remaining in the Hospital.

	MEN.	WOMEN.	TOTAL
Private or paying, white	21	18	39
Indigent, white	115	114	229
Indigent, colored	24	29	53
Criminal	8	1	9
Total	168	162	330

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The foregoing statistical review of the operations of the Hospital for the year, exhibits a higher per cent. of recoveries upon admission and a lower rate of mortality than have ever before been recorded in the history of the Hospital. The recoveries are far beyond, and the death-rate lower, than the average results in similar hospitals in this country and in Europe. These gratifying results are doubtless attributable to the greatly improved condition of the Hospital in all its varied departments, and in its additional appliances for the scientific and successful treatment of insanity. It should be stated, however, in this connection, that in consequence of the crowded condition of the wards, precedence in the order of admission was given, as prescribed by statute, to the acute forms of insanity. This, too, must have exercised no inconsiderable influence in determining the large percentage of cures, and sufficiently establishes the wisdom of such discrimination on the part of the law.

Of the one hundred and fourteen applications for admission of patients made during the year by the county judges and others, *seventy-nine* were received and *thirty-five* rejected. Of the latter, none were acute or probably curable cases. Indeed, no cases of recent occurrence have been refused admission, although it has occasionally been necessary to exchange with the counties a chronic and harmless for an acute and dangerous patient. It would further appear, from the experience of the past year, that the vacancies made by removals, recoveries and deaths about equal in number the applications for admission of acute and recent cases, and it is hoped and believed that by this arrangement all of the latter class

can be promptly admitted for treatment into the Hospital.

Your attention is next invited to a brief review of the financial affairs of the Hospital for the year just closed, and more especially to the loss and embarrassment it has suffered in consequence of the failure of the State to pay for the support of the indigent insane either promptly or in current funds. This class of patients, as you are aware, is supported by the State, and by special enactment the sum of four dollars per week, or a little over sixteen dollars per month, is allowed, quarterly, out of the State Treasury for this purpose. This sum is intended to cover not only their board, clothing, and all other expenses incident to their care and treatment, but the salaries of the Superintendent and his assistants, the wages of the nurses, employes and mechanics, the repairs upon the immense and expensive establishment in which the patients are confined, the furniture, fuel, etc.

Sixteen dollars per month, we repeat, for each indigent patient sent here on the certificates of the courts, comprise the whole amount paid by the State for the support of her Hospital for the insane; and for this sum these patients are not only to be comfortably clothed, generously fed, kindly and efficiently nursed and all their numerous wants supplied, but the expense of keeping up an extensive and expensive establishment, including salaries of the officers, wages to mechanics, repairs, furniture, machinery, etc., etc., must be liquidated by the Trustees of the Institution.

It is really difficult to conceive how so small an allowance can be made to meet the demands, especially when it is known that, of all classes of boarders, the insane are, perhaps, by far, the most expensive. They not only require constant nursing and attention, nutritious food in large quantities, medicine and comfortable clothing, but they are destructive of all kinds of bedding, clothing and every species of property, to an extent which is hardly conceivable by the inexperienced. The number of employes, which, it has been found, is absolutely indispensable to carry on the operations of the Institution,

and the compensation allowed them, as appears in the compendium of the Steward's account hereto attached, will convey an idea of one item alone of expense.

To prove further that this allowance by the State is not exorbitant—that it is indeed LESS THAN THAT OF ANY OTHER SOUTHERN STATE, I have carefully compiled the following table from the published annual reports for 1872 of all the Southern hospitals for the insane, received by us during the past year:

TABLE.*

STATES, AND NAMES OF ASYLUMS.	Average No. Patients.	Total Annual Expenditure.	Annual cost of each patient.
Virginia—Eastern Lunatic Asylum	233	$ 63,607 45	$ 272 99
Virginia—Western Lunatic Asylum	340	68,960 27	202 82
Virginia—Central Lunatic Asylum	187	42,457 21	227 04
Kentucky—Eastern Lunatic Asylum	555	129,915 59	234 08
Kentucky—Western Lunatic Asylum	317	65,470 13	206 53
Tennessee—Hospital for the Insane	362	73,300 23	202 48
North Carolina—Insane Asylum	239	70,903 15	296 66
South Carolina—Lunatic Asylum	289	89,285 49	308 94
Georgia—Lunatic Asylum	420	121,371 03	288 97
Mississippi†—Lunatic Asylum	300	93,600 00	312 00
Louisiana—Insane Asylum	165	58,790 00	356 30
Texas—Lunatic Asylum	100	64,771 01	647 71
Alabama—Insane Hospital	312	60,841 20	195 00
Totals	3.819	$1,003,272 76	$ 262 70

From the foregoing statement it appears that in the thirteen Southern hospitals there was a daily average of three thousand eight hundred and nineteen (3,819) patients under treatment during the year 1872, at an annual expenditure of one million three thousand two hundred and seventy-two dollars and seventy-six cents

* Where the average number of patients is not stated in the Reports of the above Asylums, it was determined by taking the mean of the number remaining in the Asylum at the beginning and end of the year.

† The average number of patients, and annual expenditure of the Mississipyi Asylum, given by its Superintendent, are for 1873, and are based, it is supposed, upon the results of the preceding year; and the expenditure is estimated in State Warrants at a discount of 25 per cent. The expenditures of the Louisiana and Texas Asylums are also estimated in a depreciated State currency. The remaining expenditures are in United States currency.

($1,003,272 76), and at a cost of two hundred and sixty-two dollars and seventy cents ($262 70) *per capita*. A little further calculation will show that Alabama not only appropriates a proportionately smaller sum for the support of her indigent insane than any other Southern State, but fully one-third less than the general average.

Since writing the above, I have been kindly furnished by Dr. Curwen, the Superintendent of the Pennsylvania State Lunatic Hospital, with a carefully prepared manuscript estimate of the weekly cost of supporting patients in thirty-three American hospitals for the insane during the year 1872; and since the subject is one of interest to the general reader, and affords to the financier especially a broader basis for intelligent comparison, I present here the tabulated statement:

Names of Asylums, and Average Number and Weekly Expense of Patients.

Pennsylvania Hospital for the Insane, Philadelphia—Males...	202	$ 9 99
" " " " " Females.	202	9 10
State Lunatic Asylum, Utica, New York.....	....	6 43
New Hampshire Asylum for the Insane, Concord.....	234	5 90
McLean Asylum for the Insane, Somerville, Mass.....	173	16 93
Butler Hospital for the Insane, Providence, R. I.....	126	7 79
State Lunatic Asylum, Trenton, New Jersey.....	700	4 96
Government Hospital for the Insane, Washington, D. C.....	....	4 50
General Hospital for the Insane, Middletown, Conn.....	264	4 00
Vermont Asylum for the Insane, Brattleboro.....	....	3 03
Friends' Asylum, Frankford, Philadelphia, Penn.....	....	8 35
King's County Lunatic Asylum, Flatbush, New York.....	....	2 50
Northampton Lunatic Asylum, Massachusetts.....	428	3 69
Michigan Asylum for the Insane, Kalamazoo.....	....	5 14
State Lunatic Asylum, Jackson, Mississippi.....	197	4 50
Worcester Lunatic Hospital, Massachusetts.....	....	4 25
Willard Asylum for the Insane, Willard, New York.....	564	3 68
St. Louis County Lunatic Asylum, St. Louis, Missouri.....	...	5 18
Minnesota Hospital for the Insane, St. Peters.....	243	3 96
Retreat for the Insane, Hartford, Conn.....	....	9 04
Alabama Insane Hospital, Tuskaloosa.....	312	3 75
Maine Insane Hospital, Augusta.....	....	3 51
Missouri Lunatic Asylum, Fulton.....	....	4 30
Eastern Lunatic Asylum, Williamsburg, Virginia.....	233	4 65
Western Lunatic Asylum, Staunton, Virginia.....	....	3 66
Asylum for the Insane, Stockton, California.....	1100	3 25
Taunton Lunatic Hospital, Massachusetts.....	....	3 75
Longview Asylum, Carthage, Ohio.....	585	3 40
Western Pennsylvania Hospital for the Insane, Dixmont.....	459	5 26
Northern Ohio Lunatic Asylum, Newburgh.....	369	4 32
Southern Ohio Lunatic Asylum, Dayton.....	609	3 02
Indiana Hospital for the Insane, Indianapolis.....	485	5 44
Pennsylvania State Lunatic Hospital, Harrisburg.....	413	4 97
General average.....		$ 5 34

NOTE.—This statement includes all expenses, except extraordinary repairs, &c.

These figures are not produced here for the purpose of establishing invidious comparisons; neither in a boastful spirit, nor as a complaint or reflection on the bounty of the State. Whilst economy is at all times commendable in the management of public interests, and in the disbursement of public funds, there is, nevertheless, a limit which it would be neither wise nor safe nor humane to transcend. In the administration of the affairs of this Hospital that limit has been attained, and the foregoing facts are only cited to prove it. I feel very sure that neither the Legislature nor the people of Alabama will require any further sacrifices on the part of their insane.

I said we had no fault to find with the amount appropriated annually, by statute, for the support of those who are unable to bear their own expenses in the Hospital. Though shown to be below the general average of other hospitals, with proper management it is sufficient to provide amply for all the wants of the insane, and to give this Hospital a first-class reputation, both at home and abroad. It is important, however, that the payment be made in funds that are negotiable at current rates, and not in State warrants of large denominations, and on that account unsaleable almost at any price.

The losses sustained during the past year, from this cause alone, were so enormous as almost to have ruined the Institution, and but for the liberality of the merchants, and the accommodation of the National Bank of this city, its destruction was inevitable. The discount on the State warrants issued quarterly by the Auditor in favor of this Hospital—the first dating as far back as July, 1872, and all remaining unpaid until within a few weeks past;—the payment of these warrants in State certificates, upon which there was a discount of 20 per cent.; the interest upon the large sums of money borrowed from banks and upon store accounts; the traveling expenses of agents to and from Montgomery, and many other incidental expenses, too numerous to mention, have swelled the aggregate loss, during the year, to $20,000!

Besides the innumerable privations entailed upon the patients, and other damage done to the Institution by the

abstraction of this large sum from the fund appropriated by law for their support, and which it has been shown is small enough at best, there has been incurred a debt of $10,000 for provisions and supplies furnished by the merchants, which should be paid without delay. This can only be done by a special appropriation; and, in justice to the merchants in the cities of Mobile and Tuskaloosa, with whom the debts were contracted, and who are relying upon the good faith of the State Legislature to redeem its sacred obligation to her poor insane, I respectfully suggest that the claim be presented for liquidation to that honorable body at its next session in Montgomery.

In closing this branch of my report, I have but one other suggestion to offer; and to this, the most important of all, I invite your especial and attentive consideration. If this Hospital is still to be kept open for the reception and treatment of the indigent insane from the different counties in the State, it will be absolutely necessary to secure from the State, beyond peradventure, the payment of their expenses promptly and in current funds. If the harrowing scenes of the past year are to be re-enacted in the future—if the helpless inmates of the Hospital are to be half fed and half clothed; their nurses and attendants driven by their own necessities to abandon their post of duty; their creditors and contractors to continue clamorous for their dues, and threatening to discontinue their supplies, and their officers and trustees to be perpetually harrassed and discouraged by difficulties which they are powerless to remove—if, I repeat, this state of things is to continue another year, then it were better, far better, both for the reputation of the State and the well-being of these poor, dependent creatures, that the doors of the Hospital be closed against their further admission, and those already here returned to their respective homes.

The farm and garden continue to yeld, as heretofore, large supplies of vegetables and provender of different kinds, as will be seen from the following statement of productions. Deep ploughing, a liberal and judicious distribution of manures, and thorough cultivation and

rotation of crops, will insure success in this country under almost any meteorological conditions. Whether it pays or not, can be readily determined by an estimate of the value of the tabulated products, less the expenses of cultivating one hundred acres of land, including the wages of the farmer and his assistants, the feed of mules, the fertilizers, &c., &c., all of which are specified in the abstract of the Steward's Account. The Dairy has furnished all the milk, and a large portion of the butter consumed during the year, which, with other valuable products raised on the premises, are recorded in the following table:

Production of Farm, Garden, and Dairy.

Beets, bushels	342	Okra, bushels	280
Beans, butter, bushels	72	Onions, bushels	200
Beans, snap, "	221	Peas, (English) bushels	160
Beef, killed, pounds	672	Peas, (old field) "	15
Buckwheat, bushels	3	Potatoes, (sweet) "	1,500
Butter, pounds	1,305	Potatoes, (Irish) "	889
Corn, bushels	139	Pigeons	109
Cabbage-heads	9,690	Pea-vines, tons	50
Cucumbers, bushels	188	Pepper, bushels	20
Chickens	300	Pork, pounds	5,315
Cantaloupes	2,617	Radishes, bushels	16
Eggs, dozens	432	Soap, (soft) barrels	156
Egg-plants, bushels	10	Sage, pounds	148
Fodder, tons	4	Squashes, bushels	48
Fruit trees transplanted	586	Shallots, bushels	134
Hay, tons	30	Strawberries, gallons	9
Horse-radish, bush	1	Turnips, bushels	5,900
Lettuce-heads	2,800	Turnip-salad, pounds	4,000
Milk, gallons	3,886	Tomatoes, bushels	217
Melons	879		

The Sewing and Housekeeping Departments have been conducted with unusual economy and skill by our experienced and most estimable Matron, Mrs. Harriett Woodall, and her faithful assistants. The following is a correct account, furnished by her, of the articles made and repaired in the sewing-room exclusively by the patients and nurses of the Hospital:

Articles Made and Repaired in the Sewing-Rooms.

Aprons	82	Pillow-cases	582
Bonnets	64	Pillow-ticks	68
Basques	91	Petticoats	83
Chemises	95	Quilts, (made)	125
Curtains	2	Sheets	425
Collars	78	Stocking-yarn, spun, pounds	317
Corset-covers	77	Stockings, pairs	237
Couch-covers	2	Socks, pairs	396
Drawers, pairs	132	Shirts	567
Dresses	270	Sacques	52
Gowns, night	39	Skirts	63
Handkerchiefs, hemmed	106	Suspenders, pairs	185
Hats, women's	13	Ticks, under-bed	273
Mattresses, moss	118	Towels	930
Mattress-ticks	114	Under-beds, (straw)	211
Pantaloons, pairs	515	Waists, (paroda)	45
Pillows, moss	100	Garments repaired	2689

Notwithstanding the financial embarrassments of the Institution during the year, it was found necessary to expend a considerable sum, as appears in the Steward's statement, for repairs. The machinery for heating and ventilating the Hospital, and supplying it with water, has been overhauled; the steam laundry, machine shops, and other indispensable, labor-saving, mechanical appliances, have been put and kept in successful operation during the year, and are now in good running order. The grounds in front have been partially graded and planted in ornamental trees and shrubbery; an orchard of five hundred choice fruit trees transplanted, and the flower-gardens well kept during the year—all by the labor of the patients and their nurses, and without additional cost to the Hospital.

The Medical Department of the institution under the more immediate supervision of my attentive and skillful assistants, John Little, M. D., and R. P. Huger, M. D., has been most ably and successfully conducted, and the results are shown in the large increase of cures; in the diminished mortality; in the superior hygienic precautions enforced by them, and resulting in an unusual exemption from serious disease; in a more efficient system of visiting and prescribing for the sick, and securing kind and prompt attention to the wants of all the patients on the part of nurses and employees; and not least of all,

in an unflagging zeal in devising amusements and diversions for the quiet and convalescent patients, and for which these gentlemen are entitled to the commendation of the Trustees, and the full confidence of the friends and patrons of the Hospital.

Mr. Henry Furness, for two years the Steward of this Hospital, resigned his position at the close of the present fiscal year. He was a neat and accurate accountant, and a most reliable officer, and his resignation was a source of universal regret. Mr. J. B. Baskin, appointed to succeed him, has executed and filed with the Treasurer, an acceptable bond, and has entered upon his duties.

Religious services have been gratuitously performed, as heretofore, on Sunday afternoons, in the Hospital Chapel, by the Ministers of the different religious denominations in the city; and morning prayers continue to be said daily by the Superintendent. These services, especially on Sundays, are largely attended, and are highly appreciated by both patients and employees; and we are under renewed obligations to the obliging clergymen who conduct them.

The following newspapers and periodicals are sent regularly and gratuitously to the patients; and in behalf of the latter I desire to return my most grateful acknowledgment to the considerate donors.

List of Journals Regularly Received.

1 Advertiser, Montgomery.
2 Advocate, Huntsville.
3 Advocate, Greenville.
4 Advertiser, Moulton.
5 Ala. Herald, Scottsboro.
6 Argus, Selma.
7 Advance, Montgomery.
8 Beacon, Greensboro.
9 Bigbee News, Demopolis.
10 Blade, Tuskaloosa.
11 Catholic World, New York.
12 Christ'n Advocate, Nashville, Te.
13 Commonwealth, Marion.
14 Courier, Clayton.
15 Crystal Fount, Tuskaloosa.
16 Democrat, Huntsville.
17 Examiner, Aberdeen, Miss.
18 Howard Collegian, Marion.
19 Herald, Bladon, Springs.
20 Journal, Livingston.
21 Messenger, Troy.
22 Mountain Eagle, Jasper.
23 Mouniain Home, Talladega.
24 Mor'g Side Mirror, Edinb'g, Scot.
25 Musical Monthly, Savannah, Ga.
26 News, Eufaula.
27 Or. Churchman, Portland, Or.
28 Observer, Opelika.
29 Register, Mobile.
30 Religious Herald, Richmond, Va.
31 Shelby Guide, Columbiana.
32 S. W. Presbyterian, N. Orleans.
33 So. Presbyterian, Columbia, S. C.
34 State Journal, Montgomery.
35 South Alabamian, Greenville.
36 Spectator, Northport.
37 Star, Evergreen.
38 Standard, Tipelo, Miss.
39 Times, Tuskaloosa.
40 Times, Union Springs.
41 Times, Eufaula.
42 Times—Journal, Florence.
43 Whig & Observer, Eutaw.
44 West Alabamian, Carrollton.

We are indebted to kind friends as follows: To Mrs. Ann T. Hunter and Mrs. Asa Roberts, of Mobile, for quilt scraps and reading matter; to Miss Mary Evans, Miss Sallie Roberts, and Maj. W. T. Walthall of Mobile, for books and periodicals; to the late Mrs. Hall, of Mobile, Méssrs. Berkman, of Geo gia, Landreth, of Philadelphia, and Vick, of New York, for seed, plants and shrubbery, and to Dr. Callender, Superintendent of the Tennessee Hospital for the Insane, for a lot of gold-fish for the fountain reservoir.

The following benefaction is entitled to an extended notice. Some months ago a lady of foreign birth, and a stranger to our people and country, was brought here, on the certifiaate of a County Judge, suffering from acute melancholia in its worst form. Her condition was indeed deplorable, and her life despaired of by the kind physician who recommended her removal here. In a few months after admission she was entirely restored, and returned without delay to her happy husband and children in the old country. Since then, from time to time, this grateful lady has shipped to us, from across the water, many valuable packages, containing a great variety of useful and handsome presents for the patients, nurses and officers of the Hospital. I am just now in receipt of another large invoice of valuable fancy articles, shipped by her from Glascow, Scotland, and intended for general distribution among the patients. How truly we sometimes entertain angels in disguise! I record this touching incident with peculiar pride and satisfaction, and the moral lesson it conveys will probably not be lost upon the patients and others connected with the Hospital.

Permit me, in conclusion, to refer to the timely and valuable assistance rendered by the Resident Trustees, in the financial ordeal through which the Hospital has been passing, and to acknowledge most gratefully their courteous consideration of myself. Relying upon the Almighty arm for wisdom and strength to sustain and guide us in the future as in the past, I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully, yourob't serv't,

P. Bryce, Supt.

TABULAR STATEMENTS.

In the following tables there is presented a full and complete statement of the sex and age of nine hundred and twenty-seven (927) patients, the whole number admitted into the Hospital since its opening in July, 1861, up to the present time, together with the causes of their insanity, its duration on admission, their domestic or civil state, occupation, degree of education, and the result of treatment.

Number and Sex of Patients admitted and discharged, from July 6, 1861, to October 1, 1873.

	Men.	Women.	Total.
Admitted	533	394	927
Discharged recovered	155	114	269
Discharged improved	39	26	65
Discharged unchanged	31	9	40
Died	140	83	223
Remaining	168	162	330

Duration of Insanity of Patients admitted from July 6, 1861, to October 1, 1873.

	Men.	Women.	Total.
Less than one year	168	119	287
One to three years	93	63	156
Three to five years	39	33	72
Five to ten years	64	41	105
Ten to twenty years	67	48	115
Twenty to thirty years	25	16	41
Thirty to forty years	2	6	8
Forty to fifty years	1	1	2
Congenital	19	10	29
Unknown	53	55	108
Not insane	2	2	4

Degree of Education of Patients admitted from July 6, 1861, to October 1, 1873.

	Men.	Women.	Total.
Liberal	26	19	45
Good	127	68	195
Limited	253	156	409
None	104	121	225
Unknown	23	30	53

Age of Patients admitted from July 6, 1861, to October 1, 1873.

	Men.	Women.	Total.
Ten to fifteen years	14	6	20
Fifteen to twenty years	28	25	53
Twenty to twenty-five years	84	41	125
Twenty-five to thirty years	71	65	136
Thirty to forty years	128	119	247
Forty to fifty years	98	72	170
Fifty to sixtyyears	57	28	85
Sixty to seventy years	35	15	50
Seventy to eighty years	5	6	11
Eighty to ninety years	1	2	3
Unknown	12	15	27

Domestic state of Patients admitted from July 6, 1861, to October 1, 1873.

	Men.	Women.	Total.
Single	276	149	425
Married	206	155	261
Widowed	36	71	107
Unknown	15	19	34

Form of Insanity of Patients admitted from July 6, 1861, to Oct. 1, 1873.

	Men.	Women.	Total.
Mania, Acute	107	92	199
Mania, Chronic and Periodic	83	72	155
Mania, Epileptic	56	10	66
Mania, Histerical	.....	11	11
Mania, Puerperal	.....	4	4
Monomania	83	48	131
Melancholia	51	52	103
Dementia	75	55	130
Dementia, Paralytic	11	3	14
Delirium	5	.....	5
Imbecility	57	40	97
Idiotcy	3	5	8
Feigned Insanity	2	2	4

Occupatian of Patients admitted from July 6, 1861, to October 1, 1873.

	Men.	Women.	Total.
Farmers and their wives	210	113	323
Mechanics and their wives	29	12	41
Laborers	87	53	140
Merchants and their wives	54	14	68
School children	10	4	14
Lawyers and their wives	8	2	10
Physicians and their wives	16	4	20
Ministers and their wives	11	2	13
Millers and their wives	1	1	2
Sailors	3	.....	3
School-teachers	8	9	17
Printers	4	.....	4
Soldiers	4	.....	4
Spinters	.....	28	28
Domestics and their wives	1	24	25
Portait Painter	1	.....	1
Shoemakers	2	.....	2
R. R. Conductor	1	.....	1
Confectioner	1	.....	1
Dentist	1	.....	1
Barkeeper	1	.....	1
None and unknown	80	128	208

Alleged Predisposing Causes of Insanity of Patients admitted from July 6, 1861, to October 1, 1873.

	Men.	Women.	Total.
Hereditary transmission	155	99	254
Injuries	35	8	43
Intemperance	17	4	21
Typhoid Fever	7	4	11
Uterine Disease	.....	9	9
Opium	1	3	4
Old age	.....	1	1
Ill health	4	10	14
Epilepsy	8	4	12
Masturbation	3	.....	3
Domestic difficulties	.....	1	1
Unascertained	301	249	550
Feigned Insanity	2	2	4

Alleged Exciting Causes of Insanity of Patients admitted from July 6, 1861, to October 1, 1873.

	Men.	Women.	Total.
Ill Health	30	44	74
Religious Excitement	21	10	31
Political Excitement	16	3	19
Epilepsy	63	22	85
Masturbation	22	2	24
Imprisonment	7	.....	7
Intemperance	23	5	28
Domestic Trouble	10	27	37
Grief	9	19	28
Hard Work	4	.....	4
Losses in Business	10	1	11
Fright	7	2	9
Hard Study	4	1	5
Child-birth	.....	17	17
Blow on the Head	12	2	14
Loss of Sleep	3	2	5
Jealousy	6	3	9
Disappointment in Love	8	6	14
Cengenital	7	9	16
Apoplexy	3	.....	3
General Paralysis	7	1	8
Opium	1	2	3
Tobacco	11	13	24
Injury	10	1	11
Sun-stroke	1	.....	1
Meningitis	4	1	5
Typhoid Fever	12	5	17
Uterine Disease	.....	14	14
Speculation	1	.....	1
Rape	.....	1	1
Excessive Lactation	.....	5	5
Scarlet Fever	.....	1	1
Change in Life	.....	3	3
Unascertained	219	170	389
Feigned Insanity	2	2	4